



# Dunedin Methodist Parish

*Finding Good in everyone      Finding God in everyone*

[www.dunedinmethodist.org.nz](http://www.dunedinmethodist.org.nz)

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<b>Presbyters:</b>	Rev. Siosifa Pole	455 2923
	Rev. Dr. Rod Mitchell	477 3700
<b>Parish Stewards:</b>	Mrs Hilda Hughson	487 6226
	Mrs Earlene Owens	489 8146
<b>Tongan Steward:</b>	Mr Kaufusi Pole	455 0096
<b>Parish Office:</b>	Siosifa: <a href="mailto:parish@mmsouth.org.nz">parish@mmsouth.org.nz</a>	466 4600
	Katrina: <a href="mailto:admin@mmsouth.org.nz">admin@mmsouth.org.nz</a>	
<b>Parish Prayer Convenor</b>	Elaine Merrett: <a href="mailto:elaineros@xtra.co.nz">elaineros@xtra.co.nz</a>	489 7663
<b>Pastoral Convenor</b>	Beryl Neutze	476 7447
<b>Mornington:</b>		

## PARISH BULLETIN

30<sup>th</sup> July 2017

### WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 6<sup>th</sup> August

9.30 am	Mornington	M Hardy
10.00 am	Mosgiel	S Pole
11.00 am	Glenaven	M Hardy
11.30 am	St Kilda	S Pole

### COMBINED COMMUNITY WORSHIP THIS AFTERNOON

Our brothers and sisters in Christ at Mornington Presbyterian Church are looking forward to welcoming us this afternoon at 4.30 in our cycle of worshipping together each quarter. Our theme in this season of Pentecost will be 'New wine in new wineskins' from Mark 2: 28 – 32. Everyone is warmly invited to a simple meal together following our worship.

**MOSGIEL METHODIST LEADER'S MEETING** - This is to be held in the **Church** on Tuesday 1 August at 7:30pm.

**FUND RAISING FOR JOAN MCDONALD** - Today is the last Sunday that we are fundraising to help Joan McDonald and her husband Bill since their house went on fire on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> of July. Joan has really appreciated the support that many people in the Parish have provided for them.

## **FAITH THINKING 2017**

*A "Taster" Course in New Testament Greek*

Dr Katie Marcar, Department of Theology and Religion, University of Otago

**7:00 – 9:00 pm Wednesday August 16, 23 & 30**

Burns 5 (Albany Street), University of Otago

*Understanding the Book of Revelation*

Professor Paul Trebilco, Department of Theology and Religion, University of Otago

**7:00 – 9:00 pm Wednesday September 6, 13 & 20**

Elim Church Conference Room, 67 Harrow Street

*The Protestant Reformation and the Breaking of the Western Church*

Assoc. Prof. Tim Cooper, Department of Theology and Religion, University of Otago

**7:00 – 9:00 pm Friday Oct 27 and 9:00am – 12:30pm Saturday Oct 28**

DCBC Church, 19 Main South Road, Concord

Each Course costs \$30. Please register online at

[www.otago.ac.nz/continuingeducation](http://www.otago.ac.nz/continuingeducation) or

see payment options overleaf.

For further information go to:

<http://www.otago.ac.nz/theology/news/faith-thinking.html>

**BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION WORKSHOP** - Rod and I are still working on the date for this workshop and once is finalised it will be put in the bulletin.

**PRAYER REQUEST** - Please continue to pray for the sick and home alone people of the Parish and all those whom you know that they need prayers. Pray also for the future of the Parish in terms of its leadership.

**MOSGIEL METHODIST WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP** Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> August  
1.30pm in hall lounge when Daphne & Lorraine the travel twins will speak to us about their very recent trip to morocco. All welcome.

**PRAYER REQUEST** - Please pray for Mike Wright's family, colleagues, and friends because of his sudden death on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> of July. Mike is one of the chaplains at the University of Otago and the Polytech. Please remember Greg Hughson who was one of the close friends of Mike.

## **STORY FROM THE MISSION**

*Client Support Worker:* Aroha was struggling with the support she

was providing for her teenage niece. Her niece was a bright girl who was a year ahead of her peers in her schooling. For the last several months her niece had become rebellious and this was noted by the school and her behaviour at home had also become unmanageable i.e., not listening to Dad, jumping out the window and staying at her boyfriend's house. Aroha was unsure of where this behaviour was coming from and why. Together with the school, Aroha was trying to get to the bottom of what was happening for her niece. The school had talked about involving Oranga Tamariki. Other services had become involved and her niece remained defiant to any processes that were suggested to her. The school had begun to look at other schooling options for her and Aroha felt they had put her in the 'too



hard basket'. Aroha's niece then began to turn on her and this caused Aroha to become angry, frustrated and upset with her niece.

We had a discussion about her brother's parenting and whether her niece, at the age of 15, knew right from wrong. Aroha disclosed her brother (single parent) was a good parent and worked hard to provide for his daughter. He too was unsure where the behaviour was coming from as she was usually a good girl. Aroha felt the more they tried to put boundaries and consequences in place for her niece, the more resistant and defiant she became.

We talked about the stress they were going through as they tried to guide her niece back onto the right path. I encouraged my client by reframing the situation - talk to her brother to remind him that he has installed good values in his daughter, that she knows right from wrong and to trust in his parenting so far. We spoke of age appropriateness and teenage behaviours as they try to make sense of their worlds – and giving teenagers a space to be able to do this safely. Trusting that his parenting has enabled his daughter to have the skills to negotiate her world and allowing her niece to safely become responsible for the decisions she makes and letting her know he is there for her. Aroha was enlightened by this discussion and she felt maybe they had been looking at the situation from the wrong angle. With this perspective she was eager to talk to her brother and try a new approach.

At the next home visit my client was very thankful. She informed me she had told her brother about our conversation and reinforced with him that he is a good parent and he has taught his daughter well. She encouraged him to have faith in his parenting and to trust his daughter has the skills to negotiate her world. Allowing her to become responsible and giving her space to show she can do it. Aroha said this discussion with her brother was an emotional one as he felt, up until that point, a failure as a parent. He then went to his daughter where they had an open discussion. He let her know that she knows right

from wrong and that he trusts her to make the right decisions, and that he believes in her.

Aroha says since this talk her niece has been awesome. She is happy, helpful and communicating with everyone positively. She's not jumping out windows and is refocusing on her school work. Aroha says she is a completely different girl now and the stresses and behaviours felt before have gone.

**If you would like to support the Mission's work with a donation, please visit [www.givealittle.co.nz](http://www.givealittle.co.nz) and search for The Methodist Mission.**

### **DUNEDIN INNER CITY MINISTERS' ASSOCIATION RADIO CHURCH**

Each Sunday morning a pre-recorded service of worship is offered to our wider community by members of the Dunedin Inner City Ministers' Association.

Shut-in folk, people in rest-homes, in hospital, travellers and anyone else who cannot attend church services can tune in to:

Otago Access Radio 105.4 FM, or worship with us online via [www.oar.org.nz](http://www.oar.org.nz) each Sunday morning from 8.30 am – 9.00 am.

Please publicise these services widely through all your networks, and tune in yourself to be led in worship by a wide range of Dunedin Church leaders.

Podcasts of services are available, so you can listen to them at any time. This provides a very valuable resource to our wider community.

Go to <http://www.oar.org.nz/browse-podcasts/> and find "Radio Church" via the "Select Programme Name" box.

Radio Church Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1241647572519138/>

For further information contact Greg Hughson  
[greg.hughson@otago.ac.nz](mailto:greg.hughson@otago.ac.nz)



## MARKER POSTS & 'MISSILE- LINED' INTENTIONS

What do you know about totem poles?

I have been scanning our slides (transparencies) coming across many I'd forgotten about. One is of the totem pole that stood in North Hagley Park near the river. And knowing that 'Connections' was coming up why not make connection with totem poles and their relatives, for we all know 'totems/tokens' are popping up all over the world, even in this country, Auckland has one and, there's talk of planting one in central Dunedin.

Following the Christchurch earthquakes the Hagley Park totem pole was relocated at Christchurch International Airport. The pole was a gift from America in appreciation of the hospitality given to American personnel of Operation Deep Freeze, back in the 1950's – 60's. It was carved out of a Redwood tree trunk by an American Indian woodcarver, and has the figure of the thunderbird symbolically representing the traditional god of storm, an orca representing the opening of sea lanes through the ice and other symbolic animals including the a big bird on top.

Totem poles or carved wooden posts have been in existence for hundreds of years, sometimes used to mark boundaries, sacred places, portals such as gates and doors to warn or frighten the neighbours, We find them in New Zealand, not called totem poles but pouwhenua.

Also standing stones – rocks worked to depict figures and with runes and signs in ancient languages including Picts, Celtic and Latin, and later Christian symbols and images of saints.

Actually it was the America's Cup that stirred the brain cells and got a little up my nose – it's another totem? No not my nose!

The cup is big enough to perhaps be a totem pole marking the boundary between yachting giants, and inscribed with legendary names, it has been 'gifted' for a short stay, in New Zealand.

Marker posts then have existed for hundreds, for thousands of years, planted by tribes, ancient civilisations such as Greece and Rome.

Old and new religions and, as I mentioned earlier, Christians, today continue to erect marker posts. A cross here and there; a tall church or mosque or tabernacle with a tower; a taller tower with a cross or a star or a crescent on top; a taller cathedral with a tower with a cross on top; a taller domed mosque with a tower with a crescent on top.

Then there's those other 'reaching for the sky cathedrals' adorned with flashy lights and symbols that cater for the indulgent, addicted, 'wealthy?' – those buildings called casinos – that suck in those that could do better with their money.

The BIG concern though, are those different, dangerous 'totem poles' – those big, dangerous 'marker posts' - being erected these days in the northern hemisphere, that we see now and then on the telly', standing in a row or being lifted to the vertical on to platforms or monster land vehicles or great expensive carrier ships.

Powerful metal-clad poles filled with lethal chemicals and highly combustible liquids, manufactured by nations scared of each other, trying to outdo each other – 'mine's bigger than yours, mine can fly further, mine has a bigger bang' – what's new – stop, silly children, stop yelling, and threatening each other- sit down and talk, discuss! Better for all if you got together and built a memorial to the **last** of the 'lunatic *"I know more than you"* leaders'

Must we live with this insanity?

Between them the USSR and the USA have some 50,000 nuclear missiles weapons, about, so I read, 95% of the entire number on earth,

that number is growing as other nations stockpile. And think of all the other weapon types, munitions and killing missiles that are being thrown, with what seems abandon, at the innocents, and the conscripted that get in the way.

Arms control talks have gone on for years and have failed. Why - competition, fear of the other, pressure from the money-making investors and manufacturers and suppliers of the raw materials- all who are doing all right, mate! World leaders and weapon manufacturers have a lot to answer for, they have much blood on their hands.

But what can we in little, down under New Zealand do?

Remember how we once stopped nuclear armed ships from entering our territorial waters – peaceful pressure achieved that.

We must see that our leaders turn on the pressure, peaceful pressure and not go along with the big boys, they're mostly boys - bully boys.

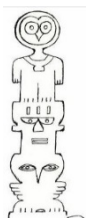
It's disheartening to hear that India, Mahatma Gandhi's India, is strengthening itself with weapons and missiles. Yet do I hear, 'but they must arm to protect their borders'?

Leaders of peace, peaceful leaders, are needed in this sorry world!

Our nation's elections are coming up – ask **our** aspiring leaders to up the anti-war and to not toady to the bully boys.

Am I whistling into the wind?

*Gordon Abernethy*



*the old?*



*the new?*



*the true?*